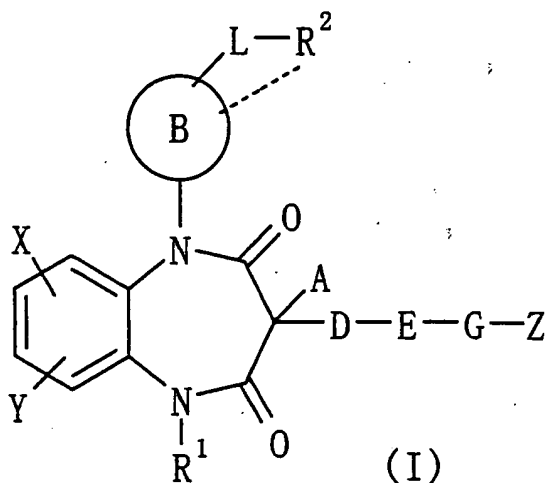


**In the Claims**

**Please substitute the following claims 1-7, 9, 12 and 16 for the claims 1-7, 9, 12 and 16 now pending in the above-identified application.**

**Please cancel claims 11 and 17 without prejudice to the filing of future continuing applications.**

1. (Currently Amended) A compound represented by the formula (I)



wherein ring B represents ~~a cyclic hydrocarbon group which may have substituent(s);~~

an alicyclic hydrocarbon group composed of 3 to 14 carbon atoms or an

aromatic hydrocarbon group composed of 6 to 14 carbon atoms,

each of which group may have 1 to 4 substituent(s) selected from the

group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub>

alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups,

halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups,

formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio

groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto

group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub>

alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups,

phenoxycarbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino

groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carboxylamino groups,

carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-

carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, and mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy;

Z represents (1) hydrogen atom or

(2) a cyclic group which may have substituent(s); 2a) alicyclic hydrocarbon groups composed of 3 to 14 carbon atoms, 2b) aromatic hydrocarbon groups composed of 6 to 14 carbon atoms, 2c) 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s), or 2d) bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing 2 or 3 of the "monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic rings", bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing 1 or 2 of the "monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic rings" and benzene ring and partially reduced rings thereof,

each of which group may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of oxo group, thioxo group, halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups,

halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub>  
aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-  
carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-</sub>  
6 alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group,  
cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl  
group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxycarbonyl group,  
amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups,  
formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups,  
carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-</sub>  
6 alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-  
thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl  
groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups,  
C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy  
groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub>  
aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, and mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkylamino-carbonyloxy;

R<sup>1</sup> represents (1) hydrogen atom, (2) a hydrocarbon group which may have substituent(s),

(2a) an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms,

(2b) an alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3 to 10 carbon atoms,

(2c) a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group or (2d) a C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl group,

wherein each of the above (2a), (2b), (2c) and (2d) may have 1 to 5

substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of 1) halogen atoms, 2) nitro group, 3) cyano group, 4) imino group, 5) 5a) amino group which may have 1 or 2 substituents selected from (i) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups which may be substituted by 1 to 5 of halogen atoms or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, (ii) formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-carbonyl groups, (iii) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, (iv) sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-sulfonyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-sulfonyl groups, and (v) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyl groups, and 5b) pyrrolidinyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, and 4-phenylpiperidyl group, 6) hydroxy group which may have a substituent selected from the group consisting of (i) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (ii) C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl groups and (iii) C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups, each of which group may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub>

alkyl-carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-  
carbonyloxy groups, wherein the C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl groups and the C<sub>7-14</sub>  
aralkyl groups may further have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from  
the group consisting of C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups and halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl  
groups, and (iv) acyl groups selected from the group consisting of  
formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-  
carbonyl groups, benzyloxycarbonyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups,  
carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-  
carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, each  
of which group may further have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the  
group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy  
groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-</sub>  
6 alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino  
groups, pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group,  
thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl  
group, 4-benzyloxycarbonylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group,  
thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups,  
mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono-  
or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-  
thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-  
carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-  
carbonyloxy groups, 7) carboxyl group which may be esterified, 8)  
carbamoyl group and thiocarbamoyl group, each of which group may  
have substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of 8a) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl

groups, 8b) benzyl group, 8c) phenyl group which may have 1 to 5 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, hydroxy group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, nitro group and cyano group, 8d) 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s), bi- or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic rings", and bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring(s)" and benzene ring, each of which heterocyclic groups may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carboxyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxycarbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl

groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy, oxy group and pyrrolidinyl group, 9) C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl groups, 10) C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkenyl groups, and 11) 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s), bi- or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "monocyclic heterocyclic rings", and bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "monocyclic heterocyclic ring(s)" and benzene ring, each of which heterocyclic groups may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxycarbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub>



alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy, oxy group and pyrrolidinyl group, and wherein each of the above (2c) and (2d) may further have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group(s), halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group(s), and C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group(s) may have 1 to 5 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, hydroxy group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, nitro group and cyano group,

(3) a heterocyclic group which may have substituent(s) 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s), bi- or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic rings", and bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring(s)" and benzene ring,

each of which heterocyclic groups may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxycarbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy, oxy group and pyrrolidinyl group, or

- (4) an acyl group; group selected from the group consisting of formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, benzyloxycarbonyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, each of which group may further have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups,

carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, 4-benzyloxycarbonylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyloxy groups;

R<sup>2</sup> represents (I) amino group which may have substituent(s) 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of (1) (1a) an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, (1b) an alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3 to 10 carbon atoms, (1c) a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group or (1d) a C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl group,

wherein each of the above (1a), (1b), (1c) and (1d) may have 1 to 5

substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of 1) halogen atoms, 2) nitro group, 3) cyano group, 4) imino group, 5) 5a) amino group which may have 1 or 2 substituents selected from (i) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups which may be substituted by 1 to 5 of halogen atoms or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, (ii) formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-carbonyl groups, (iii) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, (iv) sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-sulfonyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-sulfonyl groups, and (v) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyl groups, and 5b) pyrrolidinyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl

group, and 4-phenylpiperidyl group, 6) hydroxy group which may have a substituent selected from the group consisting of (i) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (ii) C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl groups and (iii) C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups, each of which group may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, wherein the C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl groups and the C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups may further have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups and halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, and (iv) acyl groups selected from the group consisting of formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, benzyloxycarbonyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, each of which group may further have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy

groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, 4-benzyloxycarbonylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyloxy groups, 7) carboxyl group which may be esterified, 8) carbamoyl group and thiocarbamoyl group, each of which group may have substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of 8a) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, 8b) benzyl group, 8c) phenyl group which may have 1 to 5 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, hydroxy group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, nitro group and cyano group, 8d) 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s), bi- or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic rings",

and bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring(s)" and benzene ring, each of which heterocyclic groups may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxycarbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy, oxy group and pyrrolidinyl group, 9) C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl groups, 10) C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkenyl groups, and 11) 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s),

bi- or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic rings", and bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring(s)" and benzene ring, each of which heterocyclic groups may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxycarbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy, oxy group and pyrrolidinyl group, and wherein each of the above (1c) and (1d) may further have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected

from the group consisting of C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group(s), halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group(s), and C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group(s) may have 1 to 5 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, hydroxy group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, nitro group and cyano group, (2) 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s), bi- or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic rings", and bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring(s)" and benzene ring, each of which heterocyclic groups may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxycarbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group,



mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-  
thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-  
C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-  
C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-  
C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups,  
hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups,  
mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-  
carbonyloxy, oxy group and pyrrolidinyl group, and (3) acyl groups  
selected from the group consisting of formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-  
carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub>  
aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, piperidin-4-ylcarbonyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkylsulfonyl groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono-  
or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, and mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-  
thiocarbamoyl groups, each of which groups may further have 1 to 3  
substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms,  
hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl  
groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group,  
mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, pyrrolidinyl group, piperidyl  
group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl  
group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl  
group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-  
carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyloxy  
groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups,

formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups; or (II) 5 to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic groups which may have 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than the nitrogen atom(s) having a bond or rings formed by condensing the 5 to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic group with benzene or pyridine, wherein the heterocyclic groups may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxycarbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, and mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy;

D represents a bond or a divalent group; group, wherein the divalent group is a linear divalent hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms which may have 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of (1) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (2) halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (3) phenyl group, (4) benzyl group, (5) 5a) amino group which may have 1 or 2 substituents selected from (i) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups which may be substituted by 1 to 5 of halogen atoms or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, (ii) formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-carbonyl groups, (iii) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkoxy-carbonyl groups, (iv) sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-sulfonyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-sulfonyl groups, and (v) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyl groups, and

5b) pyrrolidinyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, and 4-phenylpiperidyl group, (6) hydroxy group which may have a substituent selected from the group consisting of (i) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (ii) C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl groups and (iii) C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups, each of which group may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, wherein the C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl groups and the C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups may further have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups and halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, and (iv) acyl groups selected from the group consisting of formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub>

alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, benzyloxycarbonyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, each of which group may further have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, 4-benzyloxycarbonylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyloxy groups, and (7) carbamoyl group and thiocarbamoyl group, each of which group may have substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of 7a) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, 7b) benzyl group, 7c) phenyl group which may have 1 to 5 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, hydroxy group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, nitro group and cyano group, 7d) 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s), bi- or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic rings", and bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring(s)" and benzene ring, each of which heterocyclic groups may have 1 to 5

substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxy-carbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy, oxy group and pyrrolidinyl group,

wherein the divalent group may contain C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkylenes, phenylenes, -O-, -S-, or -N(R<sup>a</sup>)- wherein R<sup>a</sup> represents (1) hydrogen atom or (2) (2a) an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, (2b) an alicyclic hydrocarbon group having 3 to 10 carbon atoms, (2c) a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group or (2d) a C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl group,

wherein each of the above (2a), (2b), (2c) and (2d) may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of

1) halogen atoms, 2) nitro group, 3) cyano group, 4) imino group,

5) 5a) amino group which may have 1 or 2 substituents selected from (i) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups which may be substituted by 1 to 5 of halogen atoms or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, (ii) formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-carbonyl

groups, (iii) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, (iv) sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-sulfonyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-sulfonyl groups, and (v) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyl groups, and

5b) pyrrolidinyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, and 4-phenylpiperidyl group,

6) hydroxy group which may have a substituent selected from the group consisting of (i) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (ii) C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl groups and (iii) C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups, each of which group may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups,

wherein the C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl groups and the C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups may further have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups and halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, and

(iv) acyl groups selected from the group consisting of formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, benzyloxycarbonyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, each of which group may further have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms,

hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, 4-benzyloxycarbonylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyloxy groups,

7) carboxyl group which may be esterified,

8) carbamoyl group and thiocarbamoyl group, each of which group may have substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of 8a) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, 8b) benzyl group, 8c) phenyl group which may have 1 to 5 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, hydroxy group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, nitro group and cyano group,

8d) 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s),

bi- or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic rings",

and bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring(s)" and benzene ring,

each of which heterocyclic groups may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxycarbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy, oxy group and pyrrolidinyl group,

9) C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl groups,

10) C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkenyl groups, and

11) 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s),

bi- or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the

"monocyclic heterocyclic rings",

and bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by

condensing the "monocyclic heterocyclic ring(s)" and benzene ring,



each of which heterocyclic groups may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxycarbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy, oxy group and pyrrolidinyl group,

and wherein each of the above (2c) and (2d) may further have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group(s), halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group(s), and C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group(s) may have 1 to 5 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, hydroxy group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, nitro group and cyano group;

E represents a bond, -CO-, -CON(R<sup>a</sup>)-, -COO-, -N(R<sup>a</sup>)CON(R<sup>b</sup>)-, -N(R<sup>a</sup>)COO-, -N(R<sup>a</sup>)SO<sub>2</sub>-, -N(R<sup>a</sup>)-, -O-, -S-, -SO- or -SO<sub>2</sub>- (**R<sup>a</sup> wherein R<sup>a</sup> and R<sup>b</sup> each independently**

~~represents hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group which may have substituent(s));~~ have the same meaning as the above R<sup>a</sup>;

G represents a bond or a divalent ~~group;~~ group as defined for the above D;

L represents a bond or a divalent ~~group;~~ group as defined for the above D;

A represents hydrogen atom or a substituent selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxycarbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, and mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy;

X and Y each represents hydrogen atom or an independent ~~substituent;~~ substituent as defined for the above A;

and ..... represents that R<sup>2</sup> and an atom on ring B may form a ~~ring;~~ ring selected from the group consisting of tetrahydroisoquinoline, tetrahydroquinoline, isoindoline, indoline, 2,3-dihydrobenzothiazole, 2,3-dihydrobenzoxazole, 3,4-dihydro-2H-1,4-benzothiazine, 3,4-

dihydro-2H-1,4-benzoxazine, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline or 2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,4-benzoxazepine,

each of which may have 1 to 4 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of  
halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl  
group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy  
groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-  
C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl  
group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl  
groups, phenoxy-carbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups,  
formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl  
group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl  
groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy  
groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups,  
hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, and mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy,  
or a salt thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein E is -CO-, -CON(R<sup>a</sup>)-, -COO-, -N(R<sup>a</sup>)CON(R<sup>b</sup>)-, -N(R<sup>a</sup>)COO-, -N(R<sup>a</sup>)SO<sub>2</sub>-, -N(R<sup>a</sup>)-, -O-, -S-, -SO- or -SO<sub>2</sub>- (R<sup>a</sup> wherein R<sup>a</sup> and R<sup>b</sup> each independently represents hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group which may have substituent(s)) have the same meanings as described in claim 1.

3. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein L is (1) a bond or,

(2) ~~a divalent hydrocarbon group~~ a linear divalent hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10

carbon atoms which may contain -O- or -S- and may possess 1 to 5 substituents selected from

i) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group,

ii) a halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group,

iii) phenyl group,

iv) benzyl group,

v) v-1) amino group which may have substituent(s), 1 or 2 substituents selected from (i) C<sub>1-6</sub>

alkyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups which may be substituted by 1 to 5 of

halogen atoms or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, (ii) formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub>

aryl-carbonyl groups, (iii) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups,

(iv) sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-sulfonyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-sulfonyl groups, and (v) C<sub>1-6</sub>

alkylamino-carbonyl groups, and

v-2) pyrrolidinyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-

methylpiperidyl group, and 4-phenylpiperidyl group,

vi) hydroxy group which may have substituent(s), and a substituent selected from the group

consisting of (i) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (ii) C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl groups and (iii) C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups, each of

which group may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen

atoms, hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups,

carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino

groups, pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-

methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group,

mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups,

phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-

thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups,

wherein the C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl groups and the C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups may further have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups and halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, and

(iv) acyl groups selected from the group consisting of formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, benzyloxycarbonyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, each of which group may further have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, 4-benzyloxycarbonylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyloxy groups,

vii) carbamoyl groups or thiocarbamoyl groups which each may be substituted by:

a) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group,

b) a phenyl group which may have ~~substituent(s)~~, 1 to 5 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, hydroxy group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino

groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, nitro group and cyano group, or

c) ~~a heterocyclic group which may have substituent(s)~~ 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s),

bi- or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic rings",

and bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring(s)" and benzene ring, each of which heterocyclic groups may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxy-carbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy, oxy group and pyrrolidinyl group.

4. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein Z is ~~a cyclic~~ group which may have substituent(s) 1) alicyclic hydrocarbon groups composed of 3 to 14 carbon atoms, 2) aromatic hydrocarbon groups composed of 6 to 14 carbon atoms, 3) 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s), or 4) bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing 2 or 3 of the "monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic rings", bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing 1 or 2 of the "monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic rings" and benzene ring and partially reduced rings thereof, each of which group may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of oxo group, thioxo group, halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxy-carbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, and mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy.

5. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein D is a divalent group as described in claim 1 which is bonded to the ring through a carbon atom.

6. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein ring B is benzene ring which may have ~~substituent(s)~~ 1 to 4 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxy-carbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, and mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy; and L is a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene group.

7. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein G represents ~~a divalent hydrocarbon group which may have substituent(s)~~ a linear divalent



hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms which may have 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of

(1) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (2) halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (3) phenyl group, (4) benzyl group, (5) 5a) amino group which may have 1 or 2 substituents selected from (i) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups which may be substituted by 1 to 5 of halogen atoms or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, (ii) formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-carbonyl groups, (iii) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, (iv) sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-sulfonyl groups, C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-sulfonyl groups, and (v) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyl groups, and

5b) pyrrolidinyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, and 4-phenylpiperidyl group,

(6) hydroxy group which may have a substituent selected from the group consisting of (i) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (ii) C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl groups and (iii) C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups, each of which group may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups,

wherein the C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl groups and the C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl groups may further have 1 to 5  
substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups and halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkyl groups, and

(iv) acyl groups selected from the group consisting of formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl  
groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, benzyloxycarbonyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkylsulfonyl groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-  
carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, each of which group may  
further have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms,  
hydroxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, carboxyl  
group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups,  
pyrrolidyl group, piperidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, 4-  
methylpiperidyl group, 4-phenylpiperidyl group, 4-benzyloxycarbonylpiperidyl group,  
carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono-  
or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, phenoxy group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-  
carbamoyloxy groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyloxy groups, formylamino  
group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, formyloxy group, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyloxy  
groups, and

(7) carbamoyl group and thiocarbamoyl group, each of which group may have  
substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of 7a) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, 7b) benzyl group,  
7c) phenyl group which may have 1 to 5 substituents selected from the group consisting of  
halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub>  
aralkyloxy groups, hydroxy group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups,  
carboxyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, nitro group and  
cyano group,

7d) 5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic groups having 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms other than carbon atom(s),

bi- or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic rings",

and bi- or tricyclic aromatic condensed heterocyclic groups which are formed by condensing the "5 or 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring(s)" and benzene ring,

each of which heterocyclic groups may have 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, phenyl group, benzyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, phenoxy group, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy groups, formyloxy group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio groups, hydroxy group, mercapto group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, formyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl groups, benzoyl group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl groups, phenoxy-carbonyl group, amino group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino groups, formylamino group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonylamino groups, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl groups, sulfo group, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl groups, benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl groups, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyloxy, oxy group and pyrrolidinyl group, and ring B does not form a ring together with R<sup>2</sup>.

8. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein A is hydrogen atom, ring B is benzene ring, Z is a phenyl group substituted by a halogen, and R<sup>1</sup> is a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl

group which each may be substituted by substituent(s) selected from (1) hydroxy, (2) phenyl, (3) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl carbonyl or a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-carbonyl, and (4) amino groups which may be substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl sulfonyl or a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-sulfonyl.

9. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein X and Y each independently is hydrogen atom, a halogen, hydroxy, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy, a benzoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a C<sub>3-14</sub> cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, an imidazol-1-yl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, or a hydroxyphenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy;

ring B is benzene ring which may be substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, or tetrahydroisoquinoline ring or isoindoline ring which is formed by combination with R<sup>2</sup>;

Z is a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group, a C<sub>3-10</sub> cycloalkyl group, piperidyl group, thienyl group, furyl group, pyridyl group, thiazolyl group, indanyl group or indolyl group which may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from a halogen, formyl, a halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl, oxo and pyrrolidinyl;

A is hydrogen atom;

D is a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene group;

G is a bond, or a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene group which may contain phenylene and may be substituted by phenyl;

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, a C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl group, a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group or a C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl group which each may be substituted by substituent(s) selected from (1) a halogen, (2) nitro, (3) amino which may have 1 or 2 substituents selected from a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl which may be substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl, benzyloxycarbonyl and a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl, (4) hydroxy which may be substituted by (i) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl which may be substituted by hydroxy, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-

carbonyl, carboxy or a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl, (ii) phenyl which may be substituted by hydroxy, (iii) benzoyl or (iv) a mono- or di- C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino-carbonyl, (5) a C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl, (6) phenyl which may be substituted by hydroxy or a halogeno-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl and (7) thienyl, furyl, thiazolyl, indolyl or benzyloxycarbonylpiperidyl;

R<sup>2</sup> is (1) unsubstituted amino group, (2) piperidyl group or (3) amino which may have 1 or 2 substituents selected from (i) benzyl, (ii) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl which may be substituted by amino or phenyl, (iii) a mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl, or a mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-thiocarbamoyl, (iv) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl, (v) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-sulfonyl, (vi) piperidylcarbonyl and (vii) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl which may be substituted by a halogen or amino;

E is a bond, -CON(R<sup>a</sup>)-, ~~-N(R<sup>a</sup>)CO-~~, -N(R<sup>a</sup>)CON(R<sup>b</sup>)- (~~R<sup>a</sup> wherein R<sup>a</sup>~~ and R<sup>b</sup> each represents hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl ~~group~~); group;

L is a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene group which may contain -O- and may be substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl.

10. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein X and Y each independently is hydrogen atom, a halogen, hydroxy or a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy;

ring B is benzene ring or, by combination with R<sup>2</sup>, tetrahydroisoquinoline ring or isoindoline ring;

Z is phenyl group which may be substituted by a halogen, D is a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene group, G is a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene group;

R<sup>1</sup> is a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group or a C<sub>7-14</sub> aralkyl group which each may be substituted by substituent(s) selected from (1) hydroxy, (2) phenyl and (3) amino which may be substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl or a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl;

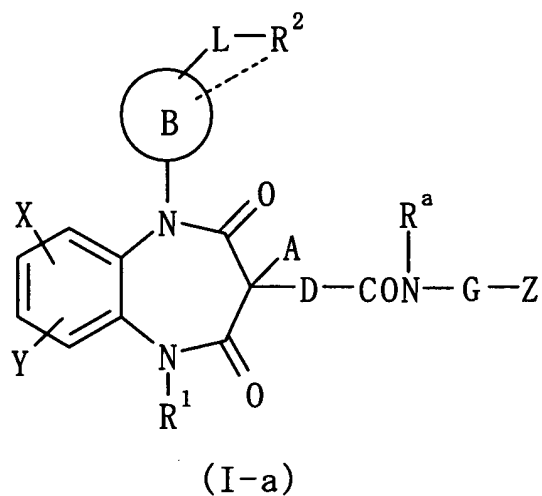
R<sup>2</sup> is unsubstituted amino group;

E is -CONH-;

L is a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene group.

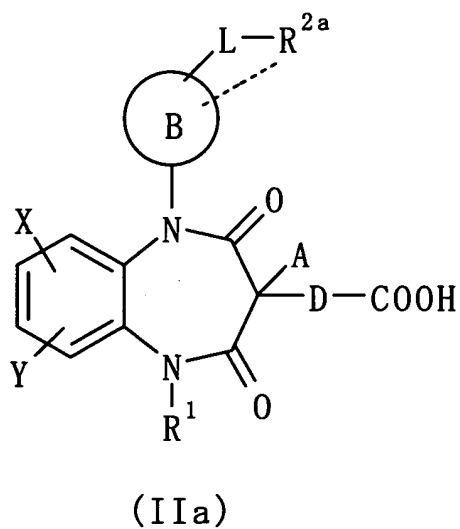
Claim 11 (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a compound of the formula (I-a)

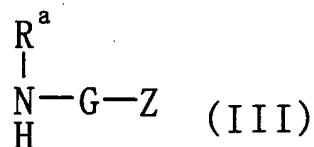


~~wherein~~ wherein the symbols have the same meanings as described ~~above~~ in claim 1 or a salt thereof which comprises:

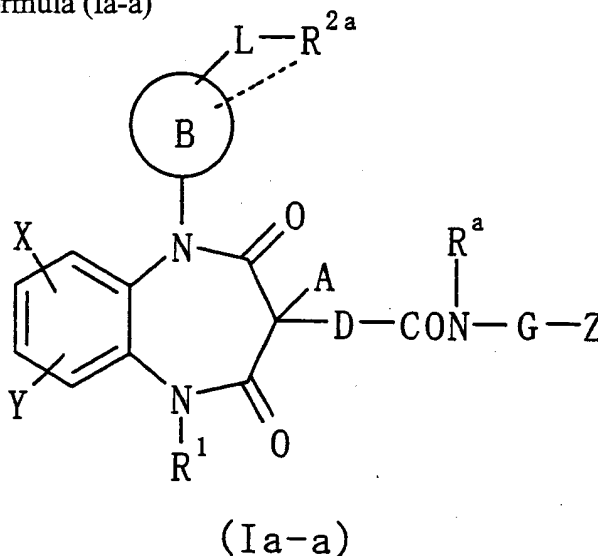
reacting a compound represented by the formula (IIa)



~~{wherein wherein~~  $R^{2a}$  ~~represents amino group which may be protected and substituted, has~~  
the same meaning as  $R^2$  which may have a protective group, and other symbols have the same  
meanings as described in claim 1 ~~1~~, a reactive derivative thereof or a salt thereof, with a  
compound represented by the formula



~~{wherein wherein~~ the symbols have the same meanings as described in the claim 1 ~~1~~ or a salt  
thereof to produce a compound of the formula (Ia-a)

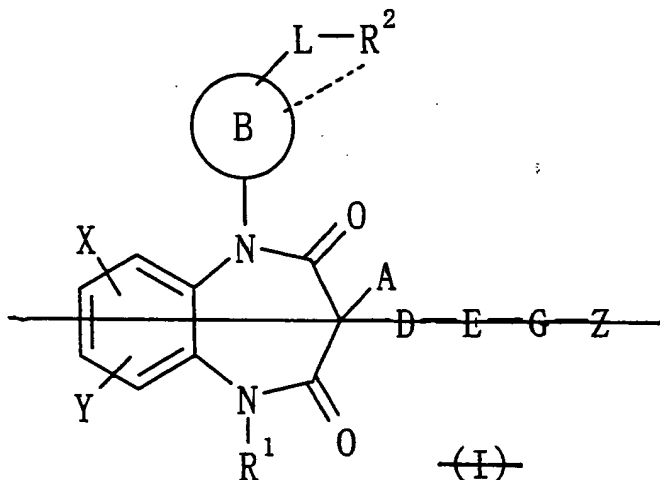


~~{wherein wherein~~ the symbols have the same meanings as described above above or a salt  
thereof, and optionally, subjecting it to de-protecting reaction.

13. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound  
according to claim 1 or a salt thereof and a carrier.

Claims 14 and 15 (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~preventing or~~ treating ~~diabetes, obesity,~~  
~~diabetes or~~ diabetic complications ~~or intractable diarrhea~~ comprising administering an  
effective amount of a compound ~~represented by the formula (I)~~



wherein ring B represents a cyclic hydrocarbon group which may have  
substituent(s);

~~Z~~ represents hydrogen atom or a cyclic group which may have substituent(s);

~~R<sup>1</sup>~~ represents hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group which may have substituent(s),  
a heterocyclic group which may have substituent(s) or an acyl group;

~~R<sup>2</sup>~~ represents amino group which may have substituent(s);

~~D~~ represents a bond or a divalent group;

~~E~~ represents a bond, CO, CON(R<sup>a</sup>), COO, N(R<sup>a</sup>)CON(R<sup>b</sup>), N(R<sup>a</sup>)COO,  
~~N(R<sup>a</sup>)SO<sub>2</sub>, N(R<sup>a</sup>), O, S, SO or SO<sub>2</sub> (R<sup>a</sup> and R<sup>b</sup> each independently~~  
represents hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group which may have  
substituent(s));

~~G~~ represents a bond or a divalent group;

~~L~~ represents a bond or a divalent group;

~~A~~ represents hydrogen atom or a substituent;



~~X and Y each represents hydrogen atom or an independent substituent;~~  
~~and ..... represents that R<sup>2</sup> and an atom on ring B may form a ring,~~  
according to claim 1,

or a salt thereof

to a mammal in need thereof.

Claims 17 and 18 (Cancelled)